

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A physical distribution system that transports a cargo from a shipper to a recipient by a transportation medium operated or managed by a carrier, the physical distribution system comprising:

a physical distribution information server ~~having-including~~:

_____ a database in which diverse pieces of physical distribution information are stored,

_____ an information management module that registers and manages the physical distribution information in the database, and

_____ an information processing module that processes the physical distribution information and ~~supplies-transmits~~ the processed information to a predetermined information terminal;

a carrier information terminal ~~having-including~~:

_____ a tracing module that detects a current position of the transportation medium,

_____ a traced position notification module that ~~notifies-transmits~~ the detected current position to the physical distribution information server, and

_____ a first information notification module that ~~notifies-transmits~~ information with regard to a desired cargo ~~input-inputted~~ by the carrier to the physical distribution information server; and

a shipper information terminal ~~having-including~~:

_____ a second information notification module that ~~notifies~~transmits information with regard to a cargo of interest ~~input~~inputted by the shipper to the physical distribution information ~~server and server~~, and

_____ a display unit that is capable of displaying the information supplied from the information processing module,

wherein the information management module registers and occasionally updates the current position of the transportation medium ~~notified~~transmitted by the traced position notification module as part of the physical distribution information, and registers the information notified by the first information notification module and the second information notification module as part of the physical distribution information,

the information management module retrieves the physical distribution information to find the current position of the transportation medium ~~with regard to a~~of the carrier ~~that has the desired cargo~~ that satisfies a predetermined condition ~~allowing delivery of the shipper's~~of the cargo of interest for delivery of the cargo of interest, the predetermined condition including an acceptance of the delivery of the cargo of interest by the carrier,

the information processing module processes information representing a result of the retrieval, ~~supplies~~transmits the processed information to the shipper information terminal, and causes the processed information to be displayed on the display ~~unit~~unit for selection of the carrier by the shipper.

2. (Currently Amended) A physical distribution system that transports a cargo from a shipper to a recipient by a transportation medium operated or managed by a carrier, the physical distribution system comprising:

a physical distribution information server ~~having~~including:

_____ a database in which diverse pieces of physical distribution information are stored,

_____ an information management module that registers and manages the physical distribution information in the database, and

_____ an information processing module that processes the physical distribution information and ~~supplies-transmits~~ the processed information to a predetermined information terminal;

a carrier information terminal having including:

_____ a tracing module that detects a current position of the transportation medium,

_____ a traced position notification module that ~~notifies-transmits~~ the detected current position to the physical distribution information server,

_____ a first information notification module that ~~notifies-transmits~~ information with regard to a desired cargo ~~input-inputted~~ by the carrier to the physical distribution information server, and

_____ a display unit that is capable of displaying the information supplied from the information processing module; and

a shipper information terminal having a second information notification module that ~~notifies-transmits~~ information with regard to a cargo of interest ~~input-inputted~~ by the shipper to the physical distribution information server,

wherein the information management module registers and occasionally updates the current position of the transportation medium ~~notified-transmitted~~ by the traced position notification module as part of the physical distribution information, and registers the information notified by the first information notification module and the second information notification module as part of the physical distribution information,

the information management module retrieves the physical distribution information to find an address of the shipper ~~with regard to a cargo that has the cargo of~~

interest that satisfies a predetermined condition allowing of the desired cargo for delivery by the carrier, as well as the and the current position of the transportation medium,

the information processing module processes information representing a result of the retrieval, supplies-transmits the processed information to the carrier information terminal, and causes the processed information to be displayed on the display unit of the carrier to apply for acceptance of the delivery.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) A physical distribution system in accordance with claim 1, wherein the carrier information terminal is mounted on the transportation medium.

5. (Previously Presented) A physical distribution system in accordance with claim 1, wherein the carrier information terminal has a first section and a second section that is separate from the first section, and

the first section includes at least the tracing module and the traced position notification module and is mounted on the transportation medium.

6. (Currently Amended) A physical distribution system in accordance with claim 3, claim 1, the physical distribution system further comprising:

a password allocation module that allocates an inquiry password to the specific a specific person; and

an accounting module that compares a password input-inputted into the specific information terminal by the specific person giving the requirement of retrieval with a password allocated in advance to the specific person and charges the specific person when the two passwords are coincident with each other,

wherein the information processing module supplies the processed information regarding the result of the retrieval to the specific information terminal when the two passwords are coincident with each other.

7. (Currently Amended) A physical distribution system in accordance with ~~claim 3, claim 6~~, wherein the specific person is either one of the recipient and the shipper.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of utilizing physical distribution information in the process of transporting a cargo from a shipper to a recipient by a transportation medium operated or managed by a carrier, the method ~~comprising the steps of:~~ comprising:

(a) detecting a current position of the transportation medium;

(b) registering and occasionally updating the detected current position of the transportation medium as part of the physical distribution information;

(c) registering information with regard to a desired cargo that the carrier wants to transport, as part of the physical distribution information;

(d) registering information with regard to a cargo of interest that the shipper requires transportation, as part of the physical distribution information;

(e) retrieving the physical distribution information to find the current position of the transportation medium ~~with regard to a~~ of the carrier that has the desired cargo that satisfies a predetermined condition allowing delivery of the shipper's of the cargo of interest for delivery of the cargo of interest; interest, the predetermined condition including an acceptance of delivery of the cargo of interest by the carrier, and

(f) ~~supplying transmitting~~ information representing a result of the retrieval to the shipper for selection of the carrier.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of utilizing physical distribution information in the process of transporting a cargo from a shipper to a recipient by a transportation medium operated or managed by a carrier, the method ~~comprising the steps of:~~ comprising:

(a) detecting a current position of the transportation medium;

(b) registering and occasionally updating the detected current position of the transportation medium as part of the physical distribution information;

(e)-registering information with regard to a desired cargo that the carrier wants to transport, as part of the physical distribution information;

(d)-registering information with regard to a cargo of interest that the shipper requires transportation, as part of the physical distribution information;

(e)-retrieving the physical distribution information to find an address of the shipper ~~with regard to a cargo that has the cargo of interest~~ that satisfies a predetermined condition ~~allowing of the desired cargo for delivery by the carrier, as well as the-and the~~ current position of the transportation medium by the carrier; and

(f)~~supplying-transmitting~~ information representing a result of the retrieval to the carrier to apply for acceptance of the delivery.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A physical distribution information server used in a physical distribution system that transports a cargo from a shipper to a recipient by a transportation medium operated or managed by a carrier, the physical distribution information server comprising:

a database in which diverse pieces of physical distribution information are stored;

an information management module that registers and manages the physical distribution information in the database; and

an information processing module that processes the physical distribution information and ~~supplies-transmits~~ the processed information,

wherein the information management module registers and occasionally updates a current position of the transportation medium ~~notified-inputted~~ by the carrier as part of the physical distribution information, and registers information with regard to a desired

cargo ~~notified-inputted~~ by the carrier and information with regard to a cargo of interest notified by the shipper as part of the physical distribution information,

the information management module retrieves the physical distribution information to find the current position of the transportation medium ~~with regard to a~~ of the carrier that has the desired cargo that satisfies a predetermined condition allowing delivery of the shipper's of the cargo of interest for delivery of the cargo of interest, the predetermined condition including an acceptance of the delivery of the cargo of interest by the carrier,

the information processing module processes information representing a result of the retrieval and ~~supplies-transmits~~ the processed information to the shipper for selection of the carrier by the shipper.

12. (Currently Amended) A physical distribution information server used in a physical distribution system that transports a cargo from a shipper to a recipient by a transportation medium operated or managed by a carrier, the physical distribution information server comprising:

a database in which diverse pieces of physical distribution information are stored;

an information management module that registers and manages the physical distribution information in the database; and

an information processing module that processes the physical distribution information and ~~supplies-transmits~~ the processed information,

wherein the information management module registers and occasionally updates a current position of the transportation medium ~~notified-inputted~~ by the carrier as part of the physical distribution information, and registers information with regard to a desired cargo ~~notified-inputted~~ by the carrier and information with regard to a cargo of interest ~~notified-inputter~~ by the shipper as part of the physical distribution information,

the information management module retrieves the physical distribution information to find an address of the shipper ~~with regard to a cargo that has the cargo of interest that satisfies a predetermined condition allowing of the desired cargo for delivery by the carrier, as well as the and the~~ current position of the transportation medium by the carrier,

the information processing module processes information representing a result of the retrieval and supplies the processed information to the carrier to apply for acceptance of the delivery.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A method of remotely managing a physical distribution information server in accordance with claim 11 via a network.

15. (Currently Amended) A carrier information terminal used in a physical distribution system that transports a cargo from a shipper to a recipient by a transportation medium operated or managed by a carrier, the carrier information terminal comprising:

a tracing module that detects a current position of the transportation medium;

a traced position notification module that ~~notifies-transmits~~ the detected current position to a server used in the physical distribution system;

an information notification module that ~~notifies-transmitted~~ information with regard to a desired cargo ~~input-inputted~~ by the carrier to the server; and

a display unit that displays an address of the shipper ~~with regard to that has a cargo that satisfies a predetermined condition allowing of the desired cargo for delivery by the carrier as well as the and the~~ current position of the transportation medium by the carrier, based on the information supplied from the server.

16. (Original) A carrier information terminal in accordance with claim 15, the carrier information terminal is mounted on the transportation medium.

17. (Original) A carrier information terminal in accordance with claim 15, the carrier information terminal having a first section and a second section that is separate from the first section,

wherein the first section includes at least the tracing module and the traced position notification module and is mounted on the transportation medium.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium in which a computer program for supplying various pieces of physical distribution information stored in a database is recorded, the computer program causing a computer to attain the functions of:

registering and occasionally updating a current position of a transportation medium operated or managed by a carrier, which is notified inputted by the carrier, in the database as part of the physical distribution information, and information;

registering information with regard to a desired cargo, which is notified inputted by the carrier, and information with regard to a cargo of interest, which is notified inputted by a shipper, as part of the physical distribution information;

retrieving the physical distribution information to find the current position of the transportation medium with regard to a of the carrier that has the desired cargo that satisfies a predetermined condition allowing delivery of the shipper's of the cargo of interest for delivery by the cargo of interest; interest, the predetermined condition including an acceptance of the delivery of the cargo of interest by the carrier, and

processing information representing a result of the retrieval and supplying transmitting the processed information to the shipper for selection of the carrier.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium in which a computer program for supplying various pieces of physical distribution information stored in a database is recorded, the computer program causing a computer to attain the functions of:

registering and occasionally updating a current position of a transportation medium operated or managed by a carrier, which is ~~notified~~ inputted by the carrier, in the database as part of the physical distribution ~~information, and~~ information;

registering information with regard to a desired cargo, which is ~~notified~~ inputted by the carrier, and information with regard to a cargo of interest, which is ~~notified~~ inputted by a shipper, as part of the physical distribution information;

retrieving the physical distribution information to find an address of the shipper ~~with regard to a~~ that has a cargo of interest that satisfies a predetermined condition allowing of the desired cargo for delivery by the carrier, ~~as well as the~~ and the current position of the transportation medium by the carrier; and

processing information representing a result of the retrieval and supplying transmitting the processed information to the carrier to apply for acceptance of the delivery.

20. (Canceled)